

**REMARKS**

In the March 30, 2007 Office Action, the Examiner noted that claims 10-21 were pending in the application; rejected claims 10, 11, 16 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) and rejected claims 12-15 and 18-21 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). In rejecting the claims, the following references were cited: "Higgins, III" and "Higgins et al." which presumably both refer to U.S. Patent 5,639,989 to Higgins, III (Reference A), and U.S. Patents 4,967,261 to Niki et al. and 6,507,121 to Huang (References B and C, respectively). The rejections are traversed below:

**REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. 102(b)**

In item 4 on page 2 of the Office Action, claims 10, 11, 16 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b). In making this rejection, it was asserted that "Higgins et al discloses a method, comprising: connecting a circuit carrier (16, Fig. 1) to a component via contacts (14)...and placing a solder bump (14) as a contact element on a first side of the circuit carrier (16) on which the component is arranged, the solder bump projecting beyond the component (see Fig. 1)...".

The only solder bumps that have been found in Higgins, III, are those formed by the solder balls 14 **under** the device 12. No suggestion has been found in Higgins, III of "placing a solder bump ... alongside ... [any] component" (claim 10, lines 6-7). As a result, the solder balls 14 taught by Higgins, III are incapable of "projecting away from the circuit carrier beyond a furthest point of the component from the circuit carrier" (claim 10, lines 8-9), at least if "the component" is semiconductor die 13 of device 12 in Fig. 1 of Higgins, III. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit Higgins, III fails to teach or suggest at least these structural features recited in claim 10.

For the above reasons, it is respectfully submitted that claim 10, as well as claims 11, 16 and 17 which depend therefrom, patentably distinguish over Higgins, III.

**REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. 103(a)**

In item 5 on page 3 of the Office Action, claims 12-15 and 18-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Higgins, III in view of Niki, et al. Nothing has been cited or found in Niki et al. that teaches or suggests modification of Higgins, III to overcome the deficiencies therein discussed above with respect to claim 11. As claims 12-15 and 18-21 depend directly or indirectly from claim 11, claims 12-15 and 18-21 patentably distinguish over Higgins, III in view of Niki et al. for the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 11.

In item 6 on page 4 of the Office Action, claims 15 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Higgins, III in view of Niki, et al., and further in view of Huang. Nothing has been cited or found in Huang that teaches or suggests modification of Higgins, III and Niki, et al. to overcome the deficiencies in Higgins, III discussed above with respect to claim 11. As claims 15 and 21 depend indirectly from claim 11, claims 15 and 21 patentably distinguish over Higgins, III in view of Niki et al. and further in view of Huang for the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 11.

#### AMENDMENT TO THE TITLE

In response to the requirement of the Examiner, Applicants have amended the title. Please note that the indefinite articles in the title suggested in the Office Action were excluded and "AND PACKAGE" was added since claims 17-20 were examined. Applicants respectfully submit the title is even more descriptive as now presented.

#### CONCLUSION

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date:

7/2/07

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